The Logger's Bark
RADIO CLUB of TACOMA

July 2010 Volume 6, Issue 67 Copyright RCT

From The Editor...

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Hello again, RCT members!

It's about time… that summer has finally began to show up! Some of us were beginning to believe that 2010 was going to be another year with no discernable summertime hot weather! This first week of July had been interesting to say the least…

Speaking of summer, I hope that many of you had time to put in an appearance at both the Field Day and Jim Kirkreit picnic. I had to miss both of these events because my lovely wife and I were on a week-long cruise to Alaska via the inward passage. I can highly recommend this trip even if you have been to Alaska before. Unfortunately for us, it was rainy and gloomy the whole time, but what the heck, we're from Tacoma, and used to weather like that, right?

Meanwhile, back at the RCT, things were hopping. In this issue, we have a couple of field day recaps, both with pictures from our Senior Radio ambassador, Worth Gurley, W7WG. I hope that you all enjoy those articles.

We also have a nice piece from Al, N7OMS giving us an advance warning about the upcoming Washington State QSO party, in which we try to work someone in each of the state's thirty-nine counties. This yearly event started out as just another operating event, but has changed into a really neat way for the club to generate revenue for our events and activities. Please read the details in Al's article!

"Sparky" has also outdone himself this month with an wide-ranging piece covering both Field Day and more RCT history. His piece starts on page seven.

Speaking of revenue generation, the RCT property management committee has another sealed bid auction starting. The last one generated some interest and a few dollars for the general fund. RCT, in case you did not know, is always receiving radio related donations that usually just end up sitting in the garage or clubhouse taking up valuable space and collecting dust. We (the RCT BOD), and the property management committee, have come up with the sealed bid auction as a way of moving some of this stuff out and everything in the auctions has been declared surplus by the board before it is put up for sale. So, look at the auction stuff listed on page sixteen, and happy bidding!

73 Gary WG7X

Radio Club of Tacoma – Board Meeting Minutes – June 2010

Meeting called to order at 7:01 pm
Minutes approval postponed to next meeting -

Illness/ silent key: Question about Casey Hicks. Jill away next month for surgery.

Committee reports

Membership Report - Rick absent - memberships processed 90%

VE Report - None

Field Day - positions sign up. Nick/Bob/Don co -chairs.

Property Management – Frank: Sales Saturday swap $28. Rounding things up for Hamfest sales. No new changes/online sales proceeding. Si is bringing items for the free table. Space problem in garage. Frank proposes an addition est. $2500. Will come up with a formal proposal.

New business

1. Salmon Run - Al Ferguson - Think about Salmon run. In a couple meetings we'll need a letter out. Discussion of Salmon run money - have not been specified since the first year but the board may so designate or even set a policy. Appoint Al Ferguson N7OMS to head up the Salmon Run committee this year. Possible ad hoc members - Harry W7HSA, Peter AD7EU, Bruce WE7P maybe Ken Gibson

• 2. Frank motioned to approve purchase of new projector to cost not more than $725. Seconded by Joe Lester K7AWJ. PASSED without objection.

Good of the Order

• 1. Don KF7JEC proposes getting involved with the Tacoma schools. Fall or spring promotional event - a field day format. Jill suggests approaching superintendent - invite to FD in Jun. Bring report back to next board meeting. Arrl - teacher workshops. Teacher at Mt Tahoma.

Scouts -
need to renew our connection to local scout troops and activities. Karl K7KHJ has been at council level and will help out.

2. Alarm installation. May go to $1500. Eta end of June.

3. Generators - 1KW is good for years but very big. Suggest smaller ones for other applications. Need pigtail for connecting the repeater panel to generator. Suggest a procedure for a team to practice running the club on the generator monthly in a preparedness exercise—what does the local EOC want from us? Also need batteries for the repeater until the team starts the generator. Repeater committee and emcomm committees should weigh in on this. Al will prepare a report.

4. Mike Elway W7GHW has a property mgmt issue need a policy. Sign outs in photography club - 2 checks - for rent or for replacement. Objections - legal issues/ liability etc. Joe created legal doc in the past. Hard to get a member to supervise the mgmt. Now the committee can do it when pending issues are completed. Standing rules state club will maintain pool of equipment for use of members. Refer him to that committee in future.

Si moved to adjourn. No objection. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm

VE REPORT by John AC7WW

It was quite a surprise on Tuesday evening when 21 candidates showed up at the Radio Club of Tacoma club house at seven PM. Eleven Volunteer Examiners graded 32 exams. Eleven element 2 exams, six element 3 exams and one element 4 exam passed. Ten Technician class amateur radio operators joined the Amateur Service. Six candidates upgraded to General. One candidate qualified for an upgrade to General because of credit for pre 1987 Technician license. One candidate passed element two, three, and four to become an Amateur Extra.

Two fourteen year old young ladies were among the candidates. One goes to a school that has a class of eight boys studying to be Hams. When she informed them that she had been studying on her own and was going to take the test last night, the boys told her she would never pass. The VEs tried to talk her into waiting until she got her call sign to tell the boys about her success. She indicated that she could not keep it quiet that long before making the boys eat crow.

Steve, AD7VL did a good job on the paper work once I got out of his way. It was nice to see Don, K7QLC back with the VE Team after a long absence.

Thanks to the following VE's for their time and effort.

Harry, W7HSA	Steve, AD7VL	Al, AC7BU
Jan, K7HTU	Rich, KK7VH	Jim, N7RHX
Stephen, AD7AB	Don, K7QLC	Bill, AD7QI

The next scheduled testing session will be Tuesday, July 13th, 2010.

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70 ft. tower and antennas for sale

Rohn 45 gauge
70 ft., fold over at 30'
Take down and haul, need gin pole
Will need new cement base section at new location
Guy wires included, need cement anchors

Antennas & Rotor
HyGain TH6DXX (needs some work on traps)
2m Yagi, 18 element
Cushcraft Ringo Ranger

$1500

Jerry Kiniry WB7CKH
H 845-3742
C 226-0096

TIME FOR SLAMMIN SALMON!

From: AL, N7OMS

The Radio Club of Tacoma will soon be holding its fourth annual Salmon Run fund raiser. The Washington State QSO party known locally as the Salmon Run will be September 18th and 19th this year. What the club has done in the past three years is combine a fund raiser with the Salmon Run. The goal of any State QSO party is to contact as many Washington counties as possible over the course of a weekend then submit your score to the group that is hosting the QSO party. The first Washington State QSO was held in 1966 and was hosted by the Boeing Employee's Amateur Radio Society (BEARS). In 1991 the W7DX club took on that task and began giving away packages of Salmon. Hence the name Salmon Run. In 2007 the Radio Club of Tacoma combined a Fund raiser with the Salmon Run and raised close to five thousand dollars. That money was then used to replace the clubs aging roof.

Since that time many improvements have been possible because of your generous donations. One of the most recent will be a very up to date alarm system to protect the club's considerable assets. As ham radio changes and the club house ages there will always be room for improvements. Your donations give us a chance to make those changes and fix what needs fixing. We are just like all 501©3 organizations in that the donations you make are tax deductable.

Here's how the fund raiser works:

You are going to be receiving a letter and pledge form sometime in September. There will be several options to choose from such as pledging a flat amount or an amount based on the number of counties that the W7DK group contacts. If you pledge a dollar a county and the W7DK contesters contact all thirty nine your donation would be thirty nine dollars. Fifty cents would be nineteen dollars and fifty cents. We have not gotten all thirty nine counties yet but there is always hope. I have been working towards a clean sweep since this fund raiser started. Maybe this year will see us in that elite class of club stations that finish with all thirty nine in the log. Some like to make it interesting. One year we had a pledge of twenty five dollars if we logged Island County or one dollar for each CW contact. Get those brain boxes warmed up and come up with your own custom pledge.

There are always counties that are not as well represented as others. It's a good time to hit Washington State's highways. Bring your rig along and help us out while having a good time. Rich Patrick KR7W and Chuck Kemmer AC7QN have gone on trips to Eastern Washington and activated several of the more challenging counties. They have done several presentations at club meetings detailing their adventures. Other club members have also been out and about helping hams all over the country log those hard to get counties. So as you think about trips to take and charitable donations to make remember the Radio Club of Tacoma's Salmon Run fund raiser. Further information about the Salmon Run contest can be found at the W7DX website.

Also stay tuned to the club's information sources for more announcements about this year's fund raising effort.

73 AL N7OMS

Field Day 2010
AL, N7OMS

We can put another Field Day behind the W7DK group. The three head honchos went a different way for the 2010 Field Day. They wanted those who have not been in front of the rigs before to see what contesting is all about. Good idea judging by the response I saw with several new faces including mine. About the only contesting I have done is for the Salmon Run Fund Raiser so I was looking forward to getting advice from the likes of K7MO, a long time contester.

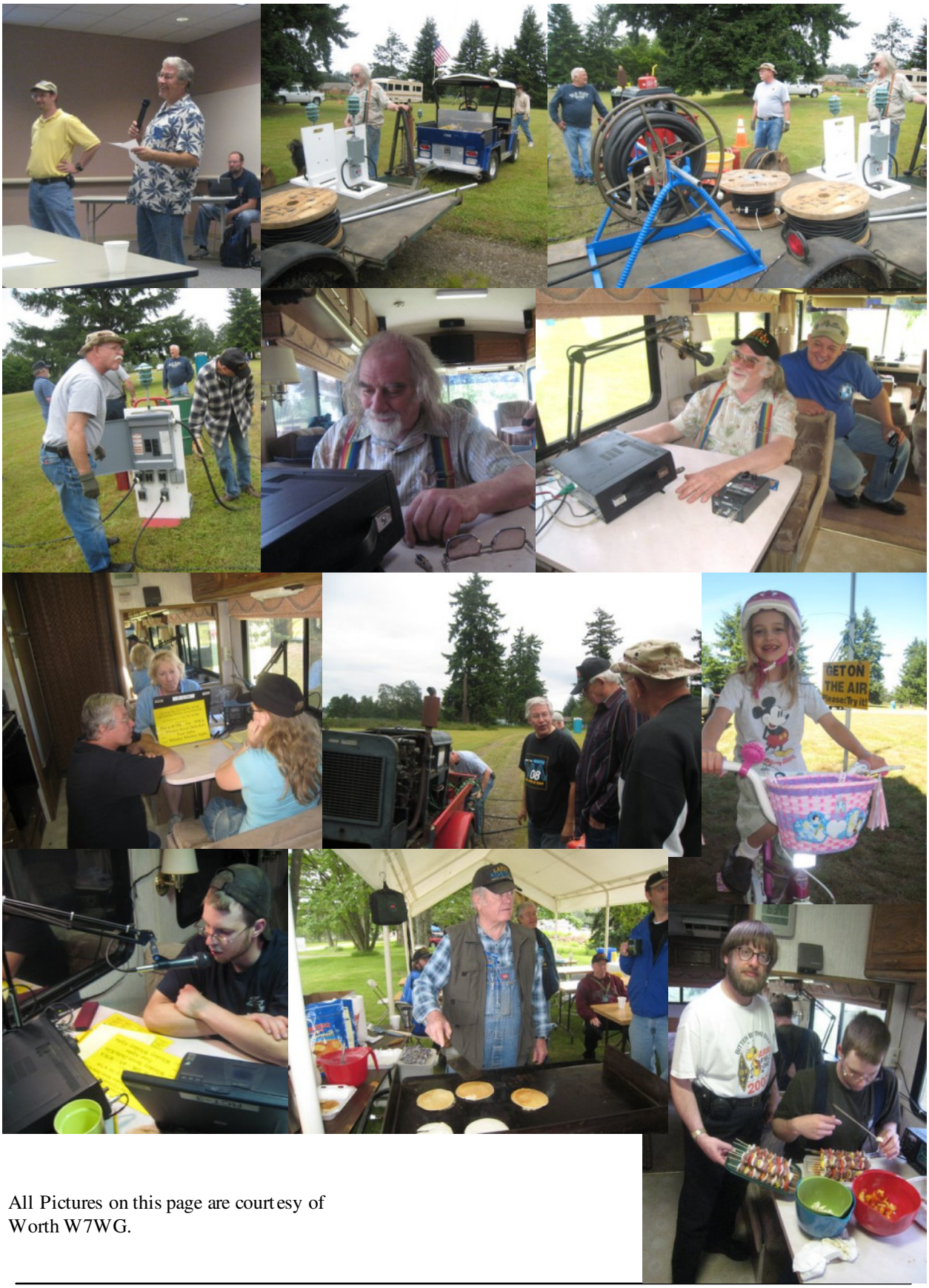
It all started early Friday at the W7DK club house. Bob AD7LJ was there to get the ball rolling. We needed to get tables, chairs, grill, rocket launchers and all other matter of club stuff ready to turn the Western State Hospital site into a modern communication hub. Remember Field Day is about being ready if we are called upon to provide support in case of a disaster.

Nick K7MO was a few minutes late because he was doing an interview with a local politician and was able to get a plug in for Amateur Radio over the air. Don K7OG completed the management team for W7DK and the loading went quickly and pretty smoothly. Bruce WE7P and I stayed behind to vacuum the class room. Easy to do without all the tables and chairs in the way. So by the time I got to the site things were rolling right along. This year we were going to be 4A. That means four transmitters including one 40 meter SSB/ CW, 20 meter SSB, 20 meter CW, and 80 SSB/CW. Also on site were Charles KD7UAN with his VHF, UHF station and Bob brought one of the State's emergency trailers to serve as a GOTA station. ARRL rules don't include those last two in the overall count of transmitters. Don't ask me why, I don't get it either.

It is always a treat to watch the vacant field become filled with antennas, power sites, kitchen and the stations. Bill Wright AD7QI was one of the first to be ready partly because he brought everything he needed. Bill I gotta say I really liked the way your antenna looked hanging up in the trees. Heard it worked well too. The kitchen was up and running thanks to the hard work of Larry KD4VOM and wife Janice. It looked like they had others helping as well and I want to say thanks to all the kitchen staff.

Nick was able to have several of the N7PP contesters on site to provide help setting up and helping mentor others. This group of hams have proven themselves in the contesting world. N7PP was last year's winner of the Salmon Run contest. It was valuable to have them on hand to show others the skills needed to compete. Mostly what I heard from Nick was "get your Butt in the chair and stay there". His advice may have been different for others. I learned that a contest station is somewhat different than a casual rag chewers station. Nick, Don, Bob, Bill, Harry K7LAZ, and Clay K7CR provided lots of equipment for members use. Thanks, as it was my first time with a K3 and it's always fun to use a Pro 3. You don't need the latest and greatest to contest but you do need all the bits and pieces to work well together and that's what these gentlemen's skills brought us. Let's not forget our very own Queen of the Rocket Launchers Diana W7SIM. She oversaw the work of getting the clubs two Rocket Launchers up safely and in a way that made sure they would stay up.

Due to family events I was only able to attend the setup on Friday and was able to operate some Saturday evening. Had a great potluck dinner and warmed the airwaves for several hours at a couple of the stations. When I left at about midnight things were moving smoothly and saw lots of smiles. Bruce WE7P told me that break down went pretty well except for something about a fire extinguisher. Ask him that's all I heard! Thanks to all the great club members for putting on another wonderful W7DK field day.



All Pictures on this page are courtesy of Worth W7WG.

Dateline: July 2010

Sparky's "View from the Shack"

This and that around the club, and more…

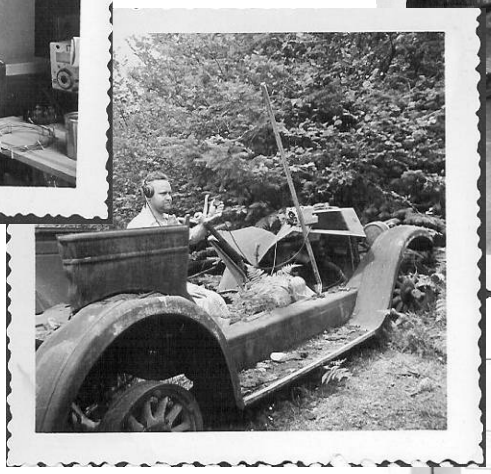
Sparky's *welcomes comments, ideas and letters to "The RCT View", but reserves the right to procrastinate, and generally ignore social engineering or cranky inputs. Editorial philosophy — While there occasionally may be reason and rhyme as we go along, the goal is to ramble through the many and varied activities of the Club and its members as we take another trip around the sun.*

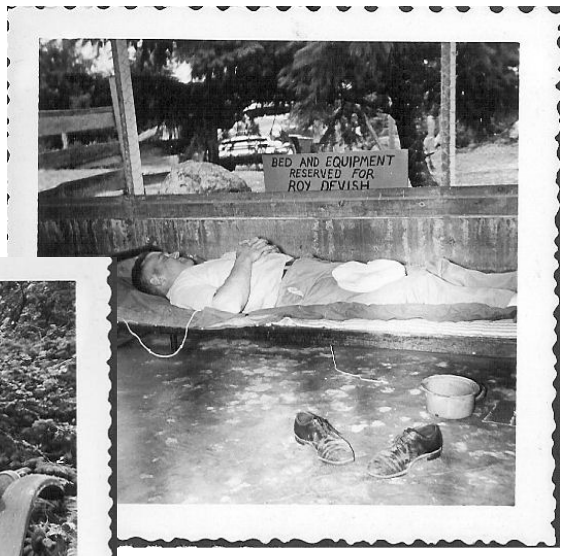
Our Legacy

- *Our Legacy…*
- *Mystery photo*
- *Field Day*
- *Attaboys*
- *ARRL and other stuff…*
- *View from the Shack*

From the Radio Club of Tacoma Archives,

Seemed appropriate to pick out some earlier RCT Field Day photos to contrast and compare with recent activity. These are from Joe Asplund's Farm in 1950…





Mystery Photo

Here's a photo of one of our older and very active members, he was also in the military. Probably taken in the 50s or 60s.

This is a tough one… Only the real senior members may remember this gent…

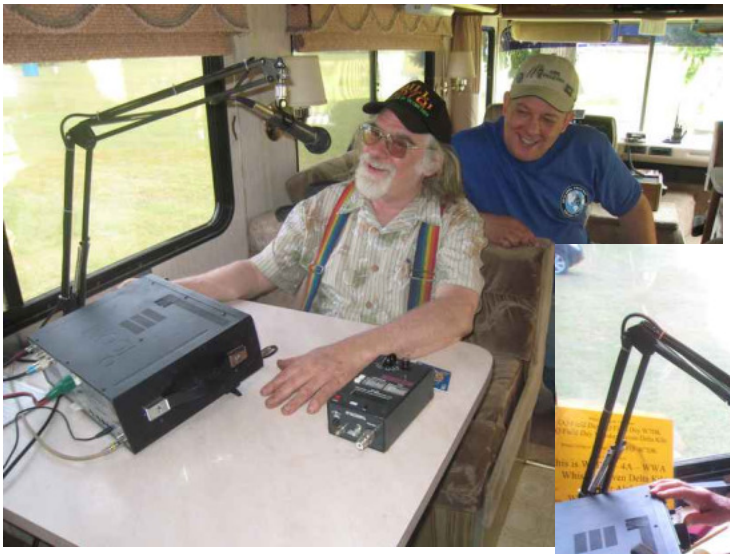
Field Day...

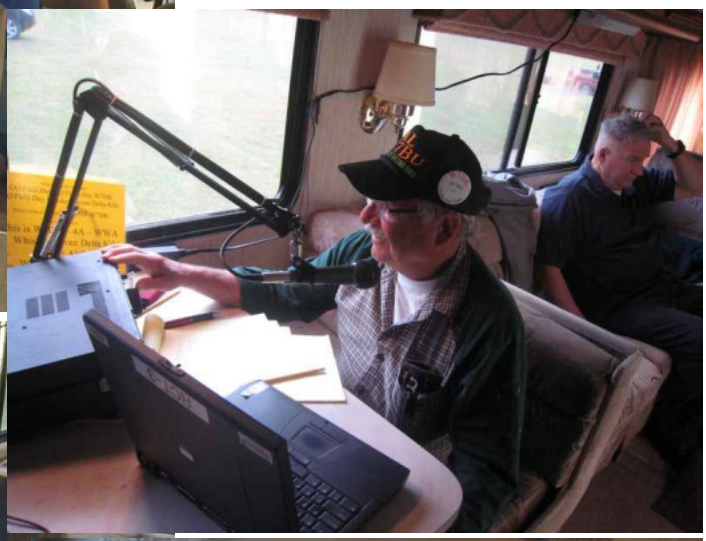
Field Day this year was a bit smaller, and a bit less hectic, but very successful in its primary goal, getting Rookies on the air. Operating four stations plus the UHF and GOTA stations we were down three from recent years, but up a bunch of Rookie operators.

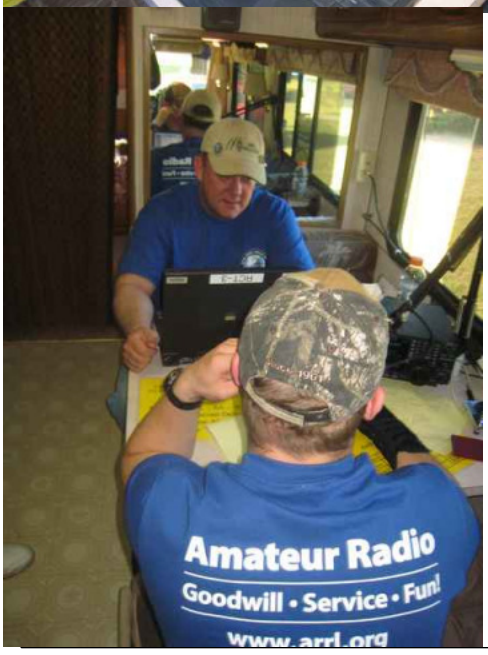
The weather even cooperated and except for a bit of drizzle on Friday, we had not to much sun, and no weather worth complaining about.

U-HAUL

U-HAUL






Amateur Radio
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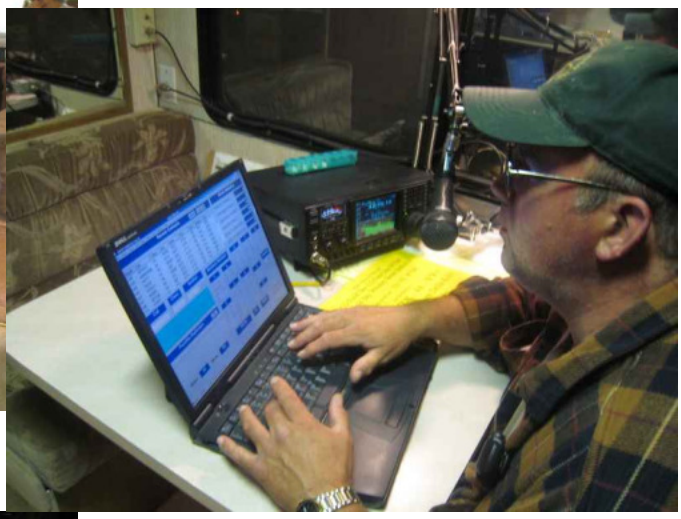

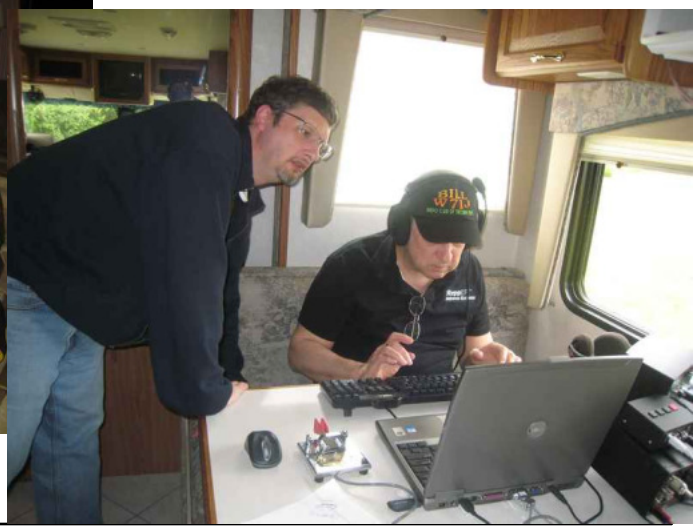

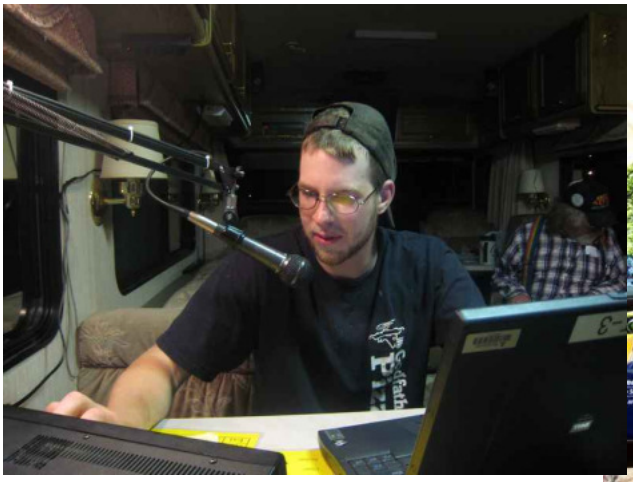

ARRL and other stuff:

+ ***FCC News*: ARRL Comments in FCC Spread Spectrum Proceeding**

In response to a 2006 ARRL *Petition* regarding spread spectrum issues, the FCC released a *Notice of Proposed Rule Making* (*NPRM*) on March 16 (WT Docket No 10-62). The Commission is looking to amend Part 97 to facilitate the use of spread spectrum communications technologies by eliminating the requirement that amateur stations use automatic power control (APC) to reduce transmitter power when the station transmits a spread spectrum (SS) emission, as well as reducing the maximum transmitter power output when transmitting a SS emission. The ARRL filed comments on this matter on June 14, 2010. Read more here.

+ ***FCC News*: FCC Seeks Comments on Amateur 5 MHz (60 Meters) Allocation**

In May, the FCC released a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* (*NPRM*) -- ET Docket No 10-98 -- proposing to amend the Part 97 rules governing the Amateur Radio Service. Specifically, the Commission looks to modify the rules pertaining to the use of five channels in the 5330.6-5406.4 kHz band (60 meters) to replace one designated channel with one that is less encumbered, to authorize three additional emission designators and to increase the maximum authorized power in this band. On June 15, a summary of the *NPRM* was published in the *Federal Register*, which started the clock on the deadline for

comments. Comments must be filed on or before July 15, 2010 (30 days after publication in the *Federal Register*); reply comments must be filed on or before July 30, 2010 (45 days after publication in the *Federal Register*). Instructions on how to file comments are listed beginning on page 6 of the *NPRM*.

TECHNICAL TOPICS AND INFORMATION

From the ARRL Contest Newsletter edited by Ward Silver NOAX

John WØUN notes that the Velleman K8090 interface kit has a USB interface that may be easier to use than the K8056 serial-interface kit. The K8061 is an extended USB interface kit.

HamCalc users will be glad to know that version 122 of this collection of handy calculators and programs was released for free downloads on June 17th. (Thanks, author George, VE3ERP)

Larry W1DYJ recommends this Directive Systems article about stacking Yagis. The article uses VHF antennas, but the ideas apply to stacking, in general. There are several good "App Notes" on the site.

Caption - The audio arrays used before radar were pretty elaborate. Don't they remind you of antenna arrays? (Thanks, Dick AA5VU)

Technical Web Site of the Week - David G3YNH's Web site "From Transmitter to Antenna" bills itself as "...a collection of scientific articles on the subject of impedance, impedance matching and high-frequency power transmission." And that it is - dig in and enjoy! (Thanks, Brad AA1IP)

Attaboys:

This month's Attaboys go to the crew who put together this year's Field Day. Planning, lugging gear, setting up, operating, reception, publicity, feeding, logging, tearing down and toting stuff back to storage takes lots of able hands.

Thanks to Gary K7UPG for the use of his flatbed truck, Jan K7HTU For hauling the kitchen tables, chairs, and grills along with towing the power generator to the field day site.

Thanks too to Alan Lentz W7AML, Bill Wright AD7QI, Charles KD7UAN, Larry KD4VOM and Nick K7MO for providing station shelters, and to Bob AD7LJ for the Washington State Emergency Operations communications trailer which also served as the Get On The Air station.

Special recognition goes to the Planners, Nick K7MO, Don K7OG, and Bob AD7LJ for putting it all together. Station Managers were

75/80 Meter CW & Phone	Bill, AD7QI and Harry W7HSA
40 Meter CW and Phone	Bruce, WE7P

10/15 Meter Phone	Nick K7MO and Clay K7CR
20/15 Meter CW	Don, K7OG, and Harry K7LAZ
VHF/UHF	Charles, KD7UAN
GOTA	Bob AD7LJ, Roger KE7EMV
Logistics:	
Field Day Kitchen	Larry KD4VOM, Jan K7HTU, Bob AD7LJ, Janice W.
Generators	Alan W7AML, Chuck AC7QN
Reception/Visitor Center	John AC7WW and Connie

Thanks to Rick KE7EMW and Gilead KE7IGV who handled Friday lunch and Safety duties.

The Kitchen crew included setting up the canopy, tables, chairs, grills; bringing, preparing and serving the Saturday Pot Luck and Sunday Logger's Breakfast. Thanks to Pete KK7QW, Al AC7BU, Steve AD7AB, Bruce WE7P and several others who helped solve the great canopy assembly puzzle.

Bob AD7LJ was pressed into excellent service for Hamburgers, and the Sunday Morning Loggers flapjacks. Jan K7HTU put together some made to order gourmet omelets. Best we can tell, no one went away hungry…

A Sparky Tip 'O the Hat earned also by Leonard KA7NWF, Diane K7SIM, Al AC7BU, Gary K7UPG, Jay KD7DKY, Al N7OMS, Si KA7AQT, and all who worked setup and teardown.

And thanks to all who took photos, especially Worth W7WG

View from the Shack…

Sparky thinks the focus on Rookie engagement at this year's Field Day was right on target, and will pay results in the long run. If you haven't been by the Clubhouse recently stop by and note how well Al AC7BU, Bruce WE7P and others have kept our grounds neat and trim.

Keep in mind, our annual Hamfest is coming up on August 14th, check the web site for detailed info.

Salmon Run is in the works for September, and then we select leadership in the October/November election cycle.

Sparky

"The art of being wise is knowing what to overlook.—William James"

The Disclaimer…
These articles are intended to browse through recent activities and coming events of possible interest to the Radio Club of Tacoma members. It will of course by design and intent be informal and attempt to record some of the Club's activities that might otherwise go unnoticed.

SALE !

THIS IS A SPECIAL SEALED BID AUCTION TYPE SALE FOR RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA

MEMBERS ONLY

BIDDING PROCEDURE:
Each item will be clearly marked with a "auction item number" on a "green" tag. All items for sale will be on display at the RCT Clubhouse every Saturday until the bid reading. The auction will be open for bidding for approximately 60 days, always ending on a Saturday. Bidding forms, envelopes and a bid deposit box will be provided at the Clubhouse. Simply write your bid amount in the appropriate column. Your bid must be more than any noted minimum. Clearly write your callsign on the form and seal the envelope. You may also mail in a "sealed" bid to Radio Club of Tacoma PO Box 11188 Tacoma, WA 98411 or hand carry it to AC7JY or N7ELF. Be sure to mark the envelope "Member Auction"
Mail in bids must be in the RCT PO box no later than **midnight September 3, 2010. Auction ends on September 4th , 2010 at noon.**

Item	DESCRIPTION	MODEL	CONDITION	MIN BID	PHOTO
1	HEATHKIT AMP	SB-200	USED AS-IS	$225	
2	YEASU TRANS	FT-301-D	USED AS-IS IN-CLUDES FV-301 VFO TRANS-CEIVER NEEDS REPAIR	$200	
3	MIRAGE 2-M AMP 10W IN 125W OUT	B1016	USED/GOOD	$100	
4	GOLD LINE ANT SWITCH	3-WAY	USED/GOOD	$5	NO PHOTO
5	GOLD LINE ANT SWITCH	3-WAY	USED/GOOD	$5	NO PHOTO
6	HALICRAFTERS RECEIVER	SKY BUDDY	USED AS-IS	$25	
7	ICOM HF TRANS-CEIVER W/HAND MIC	IC-735	USED/GOOD	$250	
8	GOULD OSCILLIS-COPE	0S-1100	USED AS-IS	$20	NO PHOTO
9	SBE POWER SUP-PLY	4-AMP	USED/GOOD	$20	
10	Hammarlund RE-CEIVER	RGB-2	USED AS-IS	$30	

The Radio Club of Tacoma's Logger's Bark

The Logger's Bark **is the *OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA*... and is published by W7DK Press, PO Box 11188, Tacoma, WA 98411. The Radio Club of Tacoma is a non-profit corporation as defined by law, and all proceeds will be used exclusively for charitable and educational purposes. The Radio Club of Tacoma's Club House is located at 1249 Washington St, Tacoma, WA 98411, phone: 253-759-2040.**

Club Officers

President: Jill Palmer, K7JIL, 253-539-7772, hamtalker2@msn.com
Vice Pres: Rick Rose, KE7EMW, 253-581-7673 rick-rose@comcast.net
Secretary: Ken Gibson, N7ELF 253-759-6919 n7elf@junett.com
Treasurer: Joe Lester 73radio@gmail.com

5 Board Members (listed in no particular order)

Al Lentz, W7AML alentz@centurytel.net
Harry Adams W7HSA RCT@xemapsl.com
Silas Nelson KA7AQT sinelsen@amum.ups.edu
Gary McAdams,WG7X wg7x@arrl.net
Frank Palmer AC7JY ac7jy@msn.com

Logger's Bark Staff

Editor in Chief: "Stop the Presses!!" Gary McAdams, WG7X, thebark@comcast.net
Printer/Publisher: "Start the Presses" John Clarke, AC7WW, 253-475-5854
Reporters: The members of the Radio Club of Tacoma...
Send articles to: thebark@comcast.net or The Bark, 11405 88th Ct SW, Lakewood, WA 98498

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ADVERTISE in the BARK: $60.00 full page, $30.00 half page, $15.00 quarter page, $5.00 business card size. These charges offset the publishing and USPS mailing costs.
Want / For Sale ads are free to members. The Logger's Bark does not verify or guarantee statements in the Want For Sale listings. Permission is granted to use any or all portions of articles published in The Loggers Bark if Credit line is included in the article.

Membership Info: FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) is $30 per calendar year. $25 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay $15 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Fulltime students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are $15 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for.. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

Radio Club Repeaters

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5 Central Tacoma Packet: 144.970
Crawford Mountain (SE Thurston County): 147.380 + PL=103.5
Central Tacoma: 440.625 + PL=103.5

The Loggers Bark
Radio Club of Tacoma, INC.
PO Box 11188
Tacoma, WA 98411

To RCT Member:

JULY 2010 EVENTS

CLUB MEETINGS: Wednesdays July 14th and 28rd at the Library Administration Building 112th and Waller Road. The club meets at 7:30 PM. Everyone is invited to attend.

Board Meeting: Wednesday July 7th 7:00 PM at the RCT clubhouse. All members are welcome to attend .

Bark Deadline: Last week-end of each month. Please submit articles by that time!

Support our club: Attend meetings, volunteer, Elmer!

Check into the weekly two meter net: Tuesdays at 7:30 PM on the club repeater on 147.280 MHz

Check into the weekly 10 meter net: Sundays at 8:00 PM on 28.375 MHz.